

REMARKS

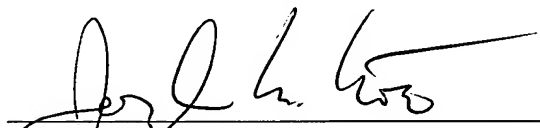
Entry of the foregoing in advance of the initial Office Action is respectfully requested.

By the present preliminary amendment, claim 14 has been amended and new claims 18 and 19 have been added to delete multiple claim dependencies and conform the foreign language originating text to U.S. practice. Accordingly, there are no multiple dependent claims. Thus, the additional claim fees of \$280 for the multiple dependent claim surcharge is not required.

Early allowance of the pending claims is hereby earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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<u>Dec. 3, 2003</u>	<u>Ruth R. Smith</u>
Date	Ruth R. Smith